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| 09/929,405 | 08/14/2001 | Shinichiroh Ohhashi | 70904-56399 | 9137 |
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| EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP P.O. BOX 55874 BOSTON, MA 02205 | | | BAKER, CHARLOTTE M | |
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| | | | 2626 | |

DATE MAILED: 02/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/929,405

Applicant(s)

OHHASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Charlotte M Baker

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☒ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/18/2002.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: p. 17, par. 4, replace “poling” with “polling”; p. 35, par. 1, replace “poling request” with “polling request”.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tachikawa et al. (5,652,803).

Regarding claim 1: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning a document image and generating image data (col. 8, ln. 31-33); an image transmitting section (interface 111) for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device (managing apparatus 126) in response to a request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) sent from the external device (managing apparatus 126); a specific image judging section (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) for judging whether or not the image data generated in said image scanning section (scanner unit

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101) is identical with specific image data (paper money, col. 9, ln. 18-29); and a transmission control section (interface 111) for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image transmitting section (interface 111) based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13).

Regarding claim 2: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image storing section (Fig. 8, memory 510) for storing the image data generated in said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); wherein said image transmitting section (interface 111), in response to the request for image data transmission (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32), transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section (memory 510, col. 13, ln. 40-42) to an external receiving device (managing apparatus 126).

Regarding claim 3: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a control section (Fig. 7, CPU 401) which, in response to the request for image data transmission from an external device (managing apparatus 126), controls said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) to be activated and generate the image data so that the image data thus generated is transmitted from said image transmitting section (interface 111) (col. 12, ln. 30-40).

Regarding claim 4: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said transmission control section (interface 111), when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), prohibits or restricts (Fig. 21, prohibiting command) the transmission of the image data by said image transmitting section (interface 111).

Regarding claim 5: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) which, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), stores information (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) on an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data.

Regarding claim 6: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 5. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for refusing to receive a call from an external device (managing apparatus 126) which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35), once sent a request for transmission (col. 15, ln. 24-35) of the specific image data (paper money).

Regarding claim 7: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 1. Tachikawa et al. further disclose warning means (guidance message, col. 16, ln. 18-22) for, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43), giving a warning to an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 8: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 7. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said warning means (guidance message) transmits a written warning to the external device (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 9: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image receiving section (Fig. 6, modem 126a) for receiving image data transmitted from an external image transmission device

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(interface 111); an image transmitting section (interface 111) for transmitting the image data to an external image receiving device (modem 126a) in response to a request for transmission of the image data sent from the external device (managing apparatus 126); a specific image judging section for judging whether or not the image data received by said image receiving section is identical with specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201); and a transmission control section (interface 111) for controlling the transmission of the image data in said image transmitting section (interface 111) based on a result of judgment by said specific image judging section (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13).

Regarding claim 10: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image storage section (Fig. 6, memory 126d) for storing the image data received by said image receiving section (Fig. 6, modem 126a), wherein said image transmitting section (interface 111), in response to the request for image data transmission (request for data transfer), transmits the image data previously stored in said image storage section (memory 510) to an external receiving device (modem 126a).

Regarding claim 11: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an image transmission request section (managing apparatus 126) for sending a request for image data transmission to the external image transmission device (interface 111) in response to the request for image data transmission from the external device (managing apparatus 126) (col. 15, ln. 36-44).

Regarding claim 12: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said transmission control section (interface 111), when it is judged that

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the image data is identical with the specific image data (paper money), prohibits or restricts the transmission of the image data (Fig. 21, prohibiting command) by said image transmitting section (interface 111).

Regarding claim 13: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose a transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35) which, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), stores information on an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data (col. 15, ln. 24-35).

Regarding claim 14: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 13. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for refusing to receive a call from an external device (managing apparatus 126) which, according to the information stored in said transmission request sender information storage section (NVRAM connected to main CPU 401, col. 15, ln. 30-35), once sent a request for transmission (col. 15, ln. 24-35) of the specific image data (paper money).

Regarding claim 15: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 9. Tachikawa et al. further disclose warning means (guidance message, col. 16, ln. 18-22) for, when it is judged that the image data is identical with the specific image data (col. 16, ln. 33-43), notifying an external device (managing apparatus 126) which requested the transmission of the image data of a warning (col. 16, ln. 33-43) .

Regarding claim 16: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 15. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein said warning means (guidance message) transmits a written warning to the external device (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 17: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning an image of a document (col. 8, ln. 31-33); first storage means (memory 510) for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); specific document judging means for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) is a specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 9, ln. 18-29); and warning means (guidance message) for, when the document is judged as the specific document by said specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201), and a request for retrieving an image is sent from an external device (managing apparatus 126) with respect to image data of the document judged as the specific document, giving a warning to the external device (managing apparatus 126) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 18: Tachikawa et al. disclose an image scanning section (scanner unit 101) for scanning an image of a document set (col. 8, ln. 31-33); first storage means (memory 510) for storing image data of the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) for judging whether or not the document scanned by said image scanning section (scanner unit 101) is a specific document (col. 9, ln. 18-29); storage control means (CPU 109) for, when it is judged that the document is the specific document by said specific document judging means (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201),

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clearing the image data stored (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512) in said first storage means (memory 510) while storing information indicating that the document is judged to be the specific document in second storage means (Fig. 8, detection circuit II 512) (col. 13, ln. 40-48); and warning means (guidance message) for, when an external device (managing apparatus 126) sends a request for retrieving the image data thus judged to be of the specific document and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510), giving a warning to the external device (managing apparatus 126) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43).

Regarding claim 19: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 18. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), said storage control means (CPU 109) stores at least an identification number (col. 15, ln. 24-29) of the external device (managing apparatus 126) in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Regarding claim 20: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 19. Tachikawa et al. further disclose wherein, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), said storage control means (CPU 109) stores at least information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent (col. 9, ln. 30-39), together with the identification number

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(col. 15, ln. 24-29) of the external device (managing apparatus 126), in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Regarding claim 21: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 18. Tachikawa et al. further disclose an output section (display) for, when the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), outputting a report (guidance message) which at least includes an identification number of the external device (managing apparatus 126) and information indicating that the request for retrieving the image data was sent col. 16, ln. 20-24).

Regarding claim 22: Tachikawa et al. satisfy all the elements of claim 19. Tachikawa et al. further disclose call refusing means (copying operation prohibition cancel command present, col. 16, ln. 33-43) for, after the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends the request (request for data transfer) for retrieving the image data judged to be of the specific document (paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) and cleared from said first storage means (memory 510) (temporarily stored and then sent to detection circuit II 512), refusing any call from the external device (managing apparatus 126) having the identification number (col. 15, ln. 24-29) stored in said second storage means (detection circuit II 512).

Regarding claim 23: Tachikawa et al. disclose i) inputting image data (scanner unit 101); (ii) judging whether or not the image data is specific image data (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201); (iii) receiving a request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) via a communications network (interface 111); and (iv)

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transmitting the image data in response to the request for transmission of the image data (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32), wherein, in the step (iv), the transmission of the image data is controlled (interface 111) according to a result of judgment in the step (ii) (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) (col. 10, ln. 1-13). Furthermore, the structural elements of apparatus claim 1 perform all of the steps of method claim 23. Thus, claim 23 is rejected for the same reasons discussed in the rejection of claim 1.

Regarding claim 24: Tachikawa et al. disclose scanning an image of a document (scanner unit 101) (col. 8, ln. 31-33); storing image data of the scanned document (Fig. 8, memory 510) (col. 12, ln. 60-64); transmitting the stored image data to an external device (managing apparatus 126) (memory 510, col. 13, ln. 40-42); judging (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) whether or not the scanned document is a specific document (paper money); and giving a warning (guidance message) (displayed, col. 16, ln. 33-43) to an external device (managing apparatus 126) when the document is judged (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) to be the specific document (paper money), and the external device (managing apparatus 126) sends a request (request for data transfer, col. 16, ln. 7-32) for retrieving the image data judged (Fig. 2, paper money discrimination controlling circuit board 201) to be of the specific document (paper money).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charlotte M Baker whose telephone number is (703) 306-3456. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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